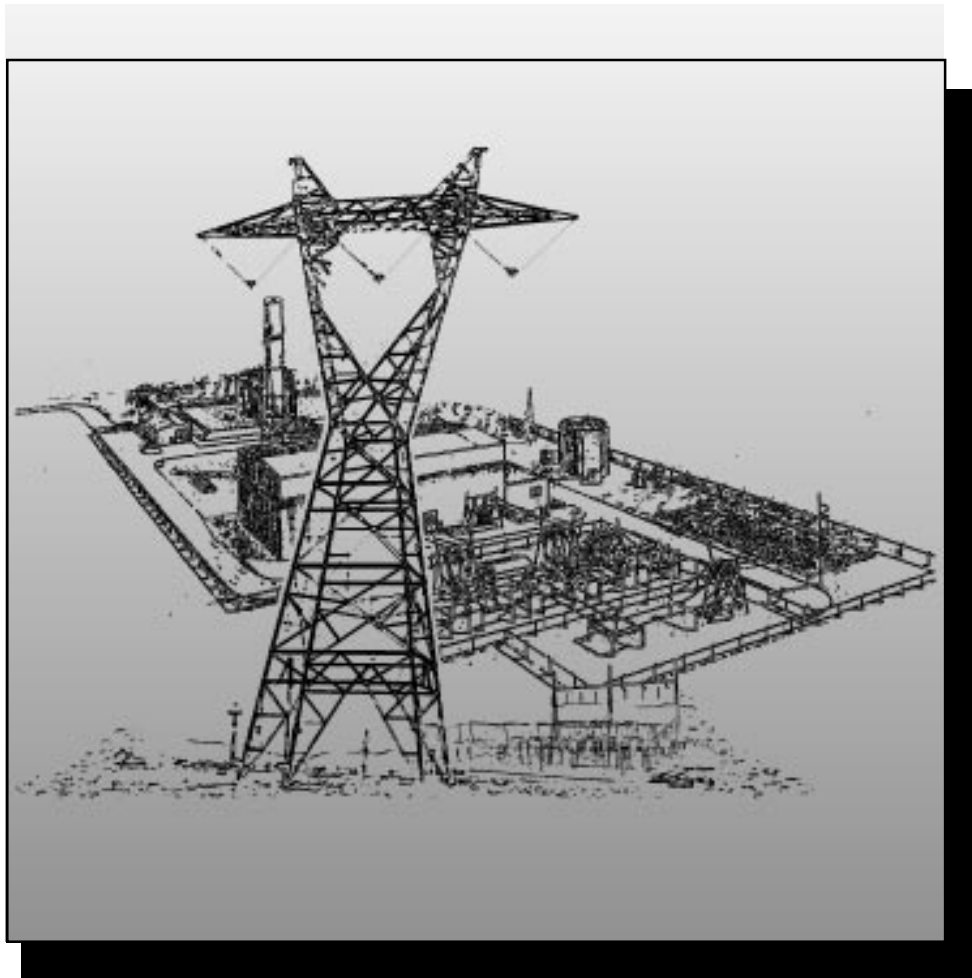


Final Environmental Impact Statement

Coyote Springs Cogeneration Project Morrow County, Oregon



Bonneville
POWER ADMINISTRATION

DOE/FEIS-0201

July 1994

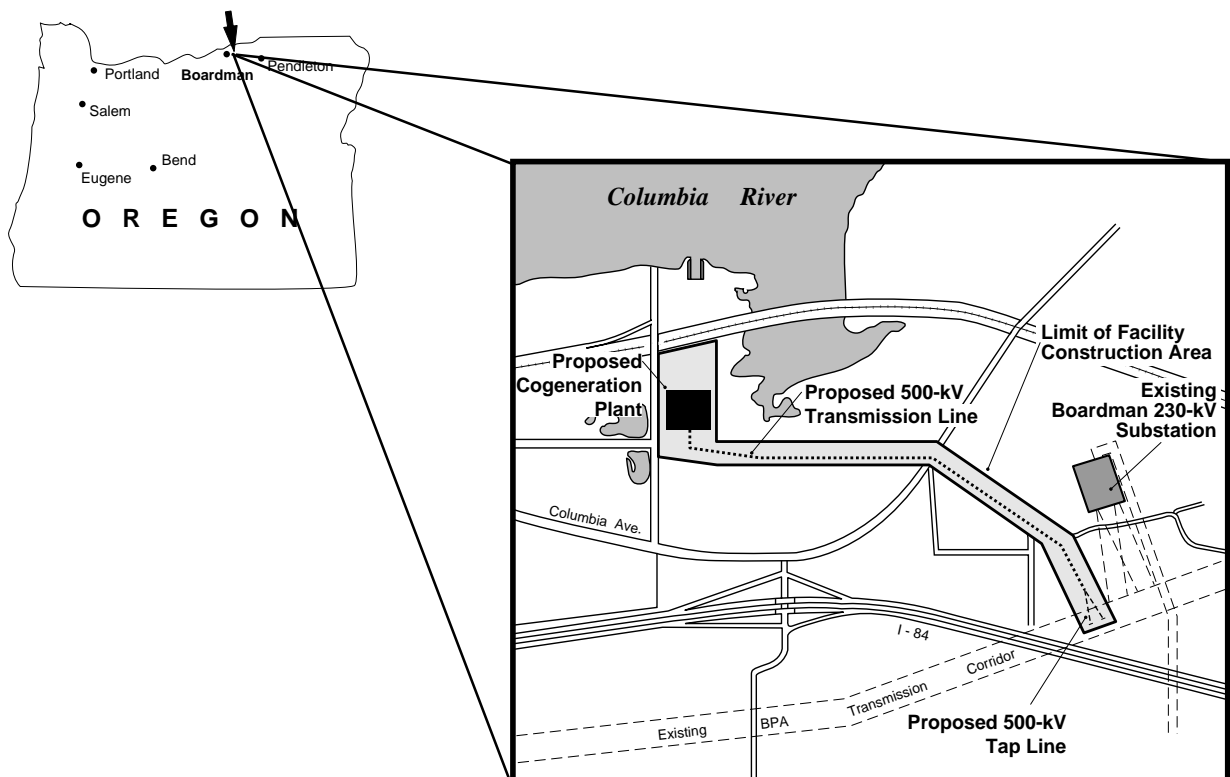
1. Introduction

Congress gave Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) the responsibility to supply electrical power to its utility, industrial, and other customers in the Pacific Northwest. Congress also directed BPA to build and operate high-voltage **transmission lines** to move electric power from hydroelectric dams, and **generation** plants fired by many types of fuel.

BPA owns and operates over 24,000 circuit kilometers (km*) (15,000 miles) of transmission lines in the Pacific Northwest. These transmission lines are used by both public and private electric utilities to transmit and market power throughout the region.

Portland General Electric (PGE), an investor-owned utility, has asked BPA to transmit power from its proposed Coyote Springs Cogeneration Plant to PGE's customers in Portland, Oregon. PGE plans to build the **cogeneration** plant in eastern Oregon, just east of the City of Boardman (see Figure 1-1). Cogeneration plants typically generate electricity in combination with a heat-producing process. The Coyote Springs Cogeneration Plant would use **natural gas** to produce electricity and steam.

Figure 1-1
Project Location



* BPA uses metric measurements to comply with Public Law 100-418. See metric conversion chart on the inside of the back cover.

The Coyote Springs Project would have two **combined-cycle combustion turbines (CTs)** with a total electrical output of 440 **average megawatts (aMW)**. The proposed plant would be built in phases. The first combustion turbine would be built as quickly as possible. Timing for the second combustion turbine is uncertain. It is also planned that the plant would supply steam to steam customers. A 500-**kilovolt (kV)** transmission line would be built to interconnect the plant with a nearby BPA transmission line. A natural gas pipeline spur would be built by Pacific Gas Transmission Company (PGT) from a point on their existing pipeline northeast of Lone, Oregon, to the plant site. The proposed cogeneration plant, transmission line, and natural gas pipeline are parts of a single project.

BPA has assumed the role of lead agency for the Federal EIS on the Coyote Springs Cogeneration Project. The **Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC)** is a **cooperating agency**. In July 1993, BPA published a Notice of Intent to prepare an **environmental impact statement (EIS)** to help decide whether to wheel power from PGE's proposed Coyote Springs Cogeneration Plant through BPA's **transmission** system. A Draft EIS (DEIS) that addressed all potential impacts of the proposed project was completed in January 1994. This Final EIS (FEIS) responds to public comments on the DEIS and provides updated information on the project. BPA expects to issue a **Record of Decision** concluding its decision process in 30 days following completion of the FEIS. The probable BPA decision, as described in the DEIS and restated here, will be to wheel power produced by Phase I of the Coyote Springs Cogeneration Plant to PGE customers in the Portland area.

FERC must issue a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity for PGT's 1995 Construction Program, which proposes two new pipelines, the Coyote Springs Extension Pipeline which is 28.8 km (18.5 miles) in length, and the Medford Extension Pipeline which is 139.2 km (86.5 miles) in length. FERC will prepare an **environmental assessment** on PGT's 1995 Construction Program to satisfy its NEPA requirements. Information on the environmental impact of the Coyote Springs Extension that is reported in this FEIS was abstracted from PGT's application to FERC in Docket No. CP93-618-000 and CP93-618-001.

Oregon's Energy Facility Siting Council (EFSC) is currently evaluating PGE's *Application for a Site Certificate on the Coyote Springs Cogeneration Project*. Oregon's site evaluation process, like the **National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)** process, provides opportunity for public participation. BPA is coordinating its NEPA process with the state. The Oregon Department of Energy issued a "Proposed Order" approving PGE's application for a site certificate for construction and operation of the Coyote Springs Cogeneration Project on January 10, 1994. Oregon is currently conducting a Contested Case proceeding as provided for in Oregon statutes. A "Final Order" approving PGE's application for site certificate is expected to be issued by EFSC in mid-September 1994. Construction of the project is scheduled to begin in September 1994 following issuance of the site certificate.

1.1 Public Involvement

The process to find out the concerns individuals, groups and agencies may have about a proposed project is called **scoping**. BPA's Notice of Intent included a 30-day scoping period, which ended August 6, 1993. During the scoping period, BPA accepted comments about issues to be addressed in this FEIS.

BPA also held a public scoping meeting at Riverside High School in Boardman, Oregon on July 29, 1993. The public meeting was announced in the Notice of Intent, local newspaper ads, and in a notice sent to those on the project mailing list including Federal, state, and local governments; environmental organizations; and landowners within 2 km (1.2 miles) of the site.

PGE prepared a fact sheet to help people understand key elements of the project.

Comments received during the scoping meeting and through written communication included these issues:

- Air quality impacts
- Noise impacts
- Water resources impacts
- Farmland impacts
- Water vapor impacts to transportation
- Economic development and employment impacts
- Electromagnetic field impacts to health and safety
- Visual impacts
- Consistency with local comprehensive plans

Issues identified during the scoping process were discussed in the DEIS which BPA completed and mailed to about 250 agencies, groups, individuals and nearby **depository libraries** in January 1994. A 45-day public review period ended on March 21, 1994. A public meeting with an open house format was held in Boardman on February 24, 1994 to review and receive comments on the DEIS. Chapter 9 of this FEIS records, categorizes, and provides responses to comments on the DEIS. This FEIS also provides updated information on the design of the project.

BPA will use the FEIS to help decide whether to provide wheeling services to PGE. No action can be taken on the transmission part of this project until 30 days after the FEIS is made public. BPA will prepare a **Record of Decision (ROD)** that explains BPA's decision on the project. BPA will mail the ROD to those agencies, groups and individuals on the project mailing list.